

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

Christine Torres, Public Affairs Officer
708-202-5627 - office
708-514-1281 - mobile
Christine.torres3@va.gov

EDWARD HINES JR. VA TO HOST MULTI-EVENT VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

Nov. 11 Celebration Parade, Recognition Ceremony, Free Lunch and Resource Fair

Hines VA Hospital at 5000 S. 5th Ave., Hines, IL 60141

HINES, Ill. – On Monday, November 11, 2019, Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital will recognize and honor local Veterans with a full day of activities for Veterans Day, including a parade on the Hines VA campus, a Veteran recognition ceremony and speakers program, a free lunch provided by the Gary Sinise Foundation, and an informational resource fair available throughout the event.

Special guest speakers at an 11 a.m. ceremony include Secretary of State Jesse White, who served as a U.S. Army paratrooper and member of the Illinois National Guard, and Retired Lt. Col. Ryan Yantis, a 9/11 Pentagon attack survivor and Army public affairs spokesman decorated for his actions that day.

During the ceremony, Veterans will be recognized from the World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Gulf War and Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom eras.

“At Hines, we make it our mission every day to provide quality services for our Veterans and make a difference for their well-being,” said Candace Ifabiyi, Acting Director, Hines VA Hospital. “On Veterans Day, we take the opportunity to go even further by inviting the community to join us in thanking Veterans for their sacrifice and service to our country. With our community partners and dedicated volunteers, we look forward to hosting our Veterans, their families and supporters.”

A complete list of Hines VA Nov. 11 Veterans Day events includes:

- **10 a.m. Celebration Parade** – along Scott Drive, behind Building 1
-Featuring Proviso East Marching Band, Jesse White Tumblers, Broadview Fire Department, Ms. Illinois, White Sox Alum Carlos May, AllenForce military vehicles, and more. The Salvation Army Canteen Truck will provide light refreshments.
- **11 a.m. Recognition Ceremony** – Building 1 Auditorium
-Featuring American Legion Post 134 Color Guard, National Anthem performed by local talent Blake Alexander, Guest Speakers Secretary of State Jesse White and Retired Lt. Col. Ryan Yantis, and Veteran recognition.

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- **12 p.m. Free Lunch and Entertainment** – Building 1 Canteen Cafeteria
-Lunch provided by the Gary Sinise Foundation and entertainment provided by Guitars for Vets.
- **10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Resource Fair** – Building 1 Hallway
-Variety of table booths featuring services and programs offered by Hines VA and community partners, including Suicide Prevention, Transition and Care Management, Women Veterans Program, Whole Health, Forest Park Vet Center, Fisher House for military families, Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, Small Business Administration, Brookfield Zoo, DuPage County Veterans Assistance Commission, and more.

Parking for the event will be in the North Lots. Enter using the Building 1 North Entrance.

Link to map: https://www.hines.va.gov/news/maps/HinesVA_Sitemap.pdf

About Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital

Located 12 miles west of downtown Chicago on a 147-acre campus, Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital is a level 1-A facility, offering primary, extended and specialty care to Veterans. Hines VA serves as a tertiary care referral center for its region. Specialized clinical programs include Blind Rehabilitation, Spinal Cord Injury, Neurosurgery, Radiation Therapy and Cardiovascular Surgery. The hospital also serves as the region's southern tier hub for pathology, radiology and radiation therapy. Hines VA currently operates 483 beds and six community-based outpatient clinics in Kankakee, Hoffman Estates, Oak Lawn, Aurora, LaSalle, and Joliet. Hines VA completes more than 882,000 patient visits a year and provides care to more than 56,000 Veterans, primarily from Cook, DuPage and Will counties.

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